IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

S1022/8602

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Box Patent Application Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Sir:

IN THE CLAIMS

3. A method according to claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

for each data store generating a list therein containing an entry for each first dependent file in the data store, said entry including a first record having details of the first dependent file.

5. A method according to claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

selecting the file locator from a file locator means which contains a plurality of file locators; and

selecting a file reader from file reader means which contain a plurality of file readers.

- 6. A method according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined parameter comprises the date on which the data file was last modified.
- 7. A method according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined parameter is a UNIX date stamp.

8. A method according to claim 1 further comprising the steps of: identifying every said first dependent file in said data store.

- 9. A method according to claim 1, wherein said data store is a data base library.
- 13. A computer system according to claim 10, further comprising: file locator means containing the plurality of file locators; and file reader means containing the plurality of file readers.
- 14. A computer system according to claim 10, wherein said predetermined parameter comprises the date on which the date file was last modified.
- 15. A computer system according to claim 10, wherein said predetermined parameter is a UNIX date stamp.
- 16. A computer system according to claim 10, wherein said data store is a data base library.

REMARKS

This is a preliminary amendment in which the claims have been amended to place them in better form before initial examination by the Examiner. Favorable action is hereby earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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AMENDED CLAIMS SHOWING THE AMENDMENTS

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 [or 2] further comprising the steps of:

for each data store generating a list therein containing an entry for each first dependent file in the data store, said entry including a first record having details of the first dependent file.

5. (Amended) A method according to [any one of claims 1 to 4] <u>claim 1</u> further comprising the steps of:

selecting the file locator from a file locator means which contains a plurality of file locators; and

selecting a file reader from file reader means which contain a plurality of file readers.

- 6. (Amended) A method according to <u>claim 1</u>, wherein said predetermined parameter comprises the date on which the data file was last modified.
- 7. (Amended) A method according to <u>claim 1</u>, wherein said predetermined parameter is a UNIX date stamp.
 - 8. (Amended) A method according to claim <u>1</u> further comprising the steps of: identifying every said first dependent file in said data store.
- 9. (Amended) A method according to <u>claim 1</u>, wherein said data store is a data base library.
 - 13. (Amended) A computer system according to <u>claim 10</u>, further comprising: file locator means containing the plurality of file locators; and file reader means containing the plurality of file readers.
- 14. (Amended) A computer system according to <u>claim 10</u>, wherein said predetermined parameter comprises the date on which the date file was last modified.

- 15. (Amended) A computer system according to <u>claim 10</u>, wherein said predetermined parameter is a UNIX date stamp.
- 16. (Amended) A computer system according to <u>claim 10</u>, wherein said data store is a data base library.